The Bendy Bulletin



BENDY BODIES

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Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders

What are hypermobility spectrum disorders (HSD)?

• HSD are a group of conditions that share some of the features of the Ehlers-Danlos syndromes (EDS), but do not meet the full diagnostic criteria for any of the specific types of EDS. HSD is a relatively new diagnostic term that was introduced in the 2017 international classification to better recognize and classify individuals with joint hypermobility (JH) and related symptoms.

Is HSD genetic?

• The exact cause of HSD is not fully understood, but there may be a genetic component to the condition. While there is no known genetic mutation to explain HSD, there may be a hereditary component that can be passed down from one generation to the next.

Is HSD less severe than Hypermobile EDS (hEDS)?

• HSD is NOT less debilitating than hEDS.

Are there comorbidities of HSD?

 Comorbidities occur commonly with HSD and include gastrointestinal problems, dysautonomia (dysfunction of the autonomic nervous system), mast cell activation disorder (MCAD), and autoimmune conditions.

How is HSD treated?

 Treatment for HSD typically involves a multidisciplinary approach. Symptoms are best managed through a combination of movement therapies, modalities, addressing nutrition and sleep, and medications. Interventions must be tailored to the individual's specific needs.

This informational bulletin was created by <u>Bendy Bodies LLC</u> for medical professionals, patients, and their families. Content on this page is not to be substituted for medical advice. Please direct feedback to info@bendybodies.org. Learn more about bulletin author <u>Linda Bluestein, MD</u>.